

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application in view of the above amendment and following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 21-33 and 39-44 are pending. In the present amendment, Claim 21-23 and 26-28 are amended; and Claims 34-38 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Support for the present amendment can be found in the original specification, for example, at page 7, lines 20-22 and in Fig. 1. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that no new matter is added.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 21-24, 26-28, 30-33, and 39-44 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Law (U.S. Patent No. 7,021,042) in view of Klepper (U.S. Patent No. 6,495,002); and Claims 25 and 29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Law in view of Klepper and Ueno (U.S. Publication No. 204/0028303).

First, Applicants wish to thank Examiner Waits and Primary Examiner Hannon for the courtesy of an interview granted to Applicants' representative on March 25, 2010, at which time the outstanding issues in this case were discussed. During the interview, arguments were presented that Klepper does not disclose each of the specific compounds recited in Claims 21 and 26. Klepper is directed towards boron carbide, and states that its invention of depositing ceramic films by vacuum art deposition can be applied to "most other electrically conducting metal compounds." Thus, it was argued that even if Klepper discloses one or more of the compounds of Claims 21 and 26, there is no apparent reason to combine Klepper with Law. The Examiner explained his view that col. 8, lines 1-4 of Klepper, discussing "more complex compounds for newer coating technologies" provides sufficient reason to combine Klepper and Law.

Further, during the interview it was noted that Law describes a planetary gear train for a turbfan engine in which journals 62 (asserted in the Office Action in paragraph 3 as

corresponding to the claimed engaging portion) connect planet gears with a planet carrier assembly 60 (asserted in the Office Action in paragraph 3 as corresponding to the claimed housing). It was pointed out to the Examiner that Law does not disclose that the journals 62 rotate with respect to the carrier assembly 60. The Examiner indicated that Claim 21 merely recited an engaging portion “rotatably supported” by the housing.

In view of the Applicants’ understanding of the Examiner’s position, Claim 21 is amended to more clearly distinguish Law. Accordingly, amended Claim 21 recites, in part, “engaging portions formed on a cylindrical side surface around a circumference of the rotation member, the engaging portions being rotatably supported by the housing and rotating relative to the housing.” Likewise, Claim 26 is amended to recite, in part, “the rotation member rotating relative to the housing.” Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the cited references do not disclose or suggest at least these features of Claims 21 and 26.

With respect to the rejections of Claims 22, 23, 27, and 28, the claims are amended to recite, in part, “one or more solid lubricants selected from the group consisting of hexagonal BN, Cr<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, WS<sub>2</sub> and BaZrO<sub>4</sub>.” It is respectfully submitted that the cited references do not disclose or suggest the above-noted lubricants.

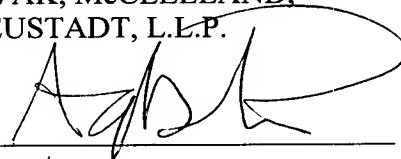
Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding grounds for rejection is respectfully requested.

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Consequently, in view of the present amendment, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. A notice of allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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